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Equal Rights

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Congratulations Are In Order

Representative Charles Kramer of California, member of the House Immigration Committee, congratulates a deputation from the National Woman's Party on the favorable report of the Equal Nationality Bill, H. R. 3673. Left to right: Mr. Kramer; Ruth Taunton of California; Lenore Goodwin of Illinois; Grace Kilroy of California; Dorothy Ogle of Maryland; Virginia Morris of California; Josephine Peters of Maine; and Mrs. Jack Stearns Gray of Virginia.

Equal Rights



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Annual Dues	\$10.00
Associate Members	\$1.00
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OBJECT OF THE WOMAN'S PARTY

The object of this organization shall be to secure for women complete equality with men under the law and in all human relationships.

THE LUCRETIA MOTT AMENDMENT

"Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction."

"Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

[Senate Joint Resolution Number 1]
[House Joint Resolution Number 1]

Introduced in the Senate March 10, 1933,
by SENATOR JOHN G. TOWNSEND, Delaware.

Introduced in the House March 9, 1933,
by REPRESENTATIVE LOUIS LUDLOW, Indiana.

All Roads Lead to Washington

ONE week from today the members of the National Woman's Party who are so fortunate as to be in Washington, D. C., will participate in two of the most interesting Feminist occasions of the year. First, there will be the hearing on the Equal Rights Amendment before the subcommittee of the Judiciary Committee of the Senate on May 27 at 10 A. M., after which the long heralded Conference of Woman's Party workers will immediately go into session in the Garden House of the Dodge Hotel. Both of these events are of supreme importance and warrant the inconvenience and expense of the longest journey.

As the title of the Conference implies the sessions will be devoted to the problems of actual workers in the Woman's Party. You will hear of the Congressional program, the International program, and you will have an opportunity of bringing your own difficulties in your own locality before the Conference for discussion. There will be comparatively few formal speeches in order to give time for the delegates to consider ways and means for making the work of the Woman's Party more effective in the various States.

Certain delightful surprises are in store for those who attend the Conference, as for example, the fact that Señor Don Benjamin Cohen, Chargé d'Affaires of Chile, will be one of the honor guests and speakers at the Conference dinner. But we are not going to give these secrets away in advance.

We merely reiterate the warning that you cannot afford to be absent from Washington, D. C., on May 27-28, even if you have to walk to get there. We also remind you again and for the last time of the importance of making your reservations for the luncheons and Conference dinner without delay.

At the last Conference many of the District members of the Woman's Party graciously gave up the places they had reserved in advance for the dinner in behalf of out-of-town delegates who had failed to make their reservations. This will not be encouraged on May 27. The dinner tickets are numbered and will be sent out in the order in which reservations are made. Those who apply early are entitled to a seat at the dinner in the Garden House, and it is particularly requested that they take their places and make no concessions to late comers.

No matter how important a person may be, he or she will be gently but firmly referred to the hotel dining-room if the reservation is made after the quota is filled. There is still plenty of room both for the dinner and the luncheons, but there may not be room if you delay making your plans until the eve of the Conference. We yearn to have you come and dine with the others in the Garden House, but we speak plainly now in order to avoid disappointment on May 27. Reservations for the luncheons at 75 cents a cover should be made with Rebekah Greathouse, 5329 Sixteenth Street N. W., Washington, D. C.; telephone, Georgia 7527. Reservations for the dinner at \$1.50 a cover should be made with Grace Cochran, 2449 Tunlaw Road N. W., Washington, D. C.; telephone, Emerson 6513. Room reservations should be made directly with the Dodge Hotel.

Consider the Moron

WHAT would you think of a soldier in a raging battle who was so stupid as not to fire off his gun when the command was given? No matter what you may think of war, you would certainly put the man down as a moron if he had enlisted and then at the psychological moment had failed from sheer laziness or inattention to obey the command.

Under a democratic form of government, grace be to God, ballots take the form of bullets, and in the interim between elections letters from constituents to Congressmen take the form of ballots. All of this sounds rather involved, but it simplifies down into a very direct question: Have you written to your own Representative in Congress requesting him to vote "aye" on H. R. 3673? If not, we blush to say it, you are personifying the moron soldier who from sheer imbecility failed to fire his gun.

It is a hard thing to turn the human race away from mutual slaughter as a means of settling differences of opinion, and we venture to predict that it can not be done until intelligent people cease behaving like idiots politically.

The pen is mightier than the sword, but its power lies in the immaterial thought that pushes it.

When Alice Paul or Maud Younger or any of the others in command say, "Write to your Congressman" or to your State Legislator, as the case may be, think of the moron soldier. There are enough idle pens and plenty of ink and paper to pass H. R. 3673 overnight, but what use are pens in the hands of political morons?

Woman's Party Representatives Attend Labor Hearing

VIGOROUS opposition to the labor program put before Congress by Secretary of Labor Perkins, in so far as that program makes possible the adoption of minimum wage regulations for women which do not apply also to men, was presented to the Labor Committee of the House of Representatives on May 4 by the National Woman's Party through its Congressional chairman, Maud Younger. Miss Younger spoke at the hearing on Secretary of Labor Perkins' amendments to the Black-Connery 30-hour week bill.

Miss Younger stated that the National Woman's Party takes no position as to whether improved working conditions for women should be brought about by legislation, by trade unions or by other agencies, but that whatever the method, the regulations should apply to men and women alike. She said that when restrictions apply to women, but do not apply likewise to their men competitors, such restrictions are a great handicap to women in securing employment. She continued:

"I wish to talk especially of those sections of the Secretary of Labor's proposed bill which deal with minimum wage boards. While the Black-Connery 30-hour week bill seems to propose a law that would apply to all persons, men and women alike, the amendments submitted by the Secretary of Labor are not at all clear on that point.

"Under Section 4 of this bill the Secre-

tary of Labor might, for instance, it would seem, select a group of women in any industry and appoint a wage board which would establish a wage for women alone instead of a wage based on the work that is done. Sections 6 and 8 are also especially ominous and threatening. They put a tremendous power in the hands of the Department of Labor with regard to establishing minimum wage regulations, and this department, as is well known, stands for special treatment of women workers as distinct from men workers in the matter of minimum wage regulations.

"Since women have had the vote in this country, Congress has not passed any law which would place them in the same category with children and apart from other adults. Congress has, instead, been gradually wiping out the old inequalities. And yet it is now proposed that Congress turn over to a department of the Government the power to discriminate against women by establishing a minimum wage law applying to women, but not to men.

"We are neither for nor against minimum wage regulations as such—but we are emphatically against such regulations when they are on a sex basis and apply only to women. We ask this committee that there be written into this bill, if it is to be favorably reported, a requirement that any minimum wage to be established under the authority of this proposed law should be based upon the nature of the work and not upon the sex of

the worker, and that this bill should prohibit any minimum wage legislation for women which does not apply also to men."

Miss Younger concluded by giving several illustrations of the disastrous results to women of minimum wage regulations applying only to women.

The following day, May 5, Ruth Taunton of Los Angeles, representative of the California Business and Professional Women's Council, laid before the Labor Committee a similar protest from eight other women's organizations. The statement placed before the committee by Miss Taunton on behalf of the eight organizations was as follows:

"The National Association of Women Lawyers, the Women's Equal Opportunity League, the California Business and Professional Women's Council, the Bindery Women's Union (Local 66) of New York, the New York State Federation of Business and Professional Women, the New York State Business and Professional Women's Council, the New York City Zonta Club, the Brooklyn-Manhattan Women's Railroad League, being unable to be personally represented at today's hearing, request that they be listed in the records of the Labor Committee as supporting the statement made to the committee yesterday by Miss Maud Younger on behalf of the National Woman's Party. With this statement we are in complete agreement."

Equal Nationality Bill Is Reported Favorably

THE Equal Rights Nationality Bill, H. R. 3673, known as the Copeland-Dickstein Bill, was reported out of the House Immigration Committee on May 11 with the recommendation that it be adopted by the House. This bill will, if passed, remove all the remaining discriminations against women citizens of this country in the nationality laws.

The members of the Immigration Committee who supported the bill were Samuel Dickstein of New York (Democrat), chairman of the committee, who introduced the bill in the House; Everett M. Dirksen of Illinois (Republican); Martin Dies of Texas (Democrat); Carl M. Weideman of Michigan (Democrat); Chas. Kramer of California (Democrat); E. M. Owen of Georgia (Democrat); William M. Colmer of Mississippi (Democrat); James T. Lanzetta (Democrat), and Charles D. Millard (Republican) of New York. The other members of the committee were either absent or opposed.

The Nationality Bill was introduced at the instance of the National Woman's

Party and was supported by eight other national organizations which were represented at hearings before the committee—the National Association of Women Lawyers; the General Federation of Women's Clubs; the National Zonta Clubs; the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs; the National Council of Jewish Women; the National Association of Women Physicians; the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom; and the Southern Women's National Democratic Association.

In congratulating the Immigration Committee of the House on its forward step in reporting the Nationality Bill out of committee, Mrs. Florence Bayard Hilles of Delaware, Chairman of the National Council of the Woman's Party, stated:

"Now that the Equal Rights Nationality Bill is out of committee we wish to emphasize two reasons why it should be passed at once by the House of Representatives during the present session of Congress: First, the present inequalities

in the nationality laws of the United States are unjust and humiliating to American women. Second, the question of an Equal Rights Nationality Treaty for the Western Hemisphere is on the agenda for the coming conference of American Republics to be held next December at Montevideo and the United States delegation would be greatly strengthened in advocating such a treaty at this Conference if the United States laws on nationality were made equal between men and women. Argentine, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay already have full equality in nationality. We do not want the United States to be behind these other countries at this coming Conference of the Republics of the Western Hemisphere."

Immediately following the action of the Immigration Committee in reporting the measure out of committee, Maud Younger, Congressional chairman of the Woman's Party, sent a letter to the members of the National Council, State chairmen, and members of the Congressional Committee, urging that letters in support of the bill

be sent at once to all members of the House of Representatives. Miss Younger's letter follows:

"May 11, 1933.

"Dear Members of National Council, State Chairmen, and Members of the Congressional Committee:

"The first legislative action on any Equal Rights measure in this session of Congress was taken this morning when the House Immigration Committee voted to report favorably H. R. 3673 relating to the nationality of women. The members of the House Immigration Committee from Georgia, Illinois, Michigan, Mississippi, New York, Texas and one member from California supported the bill. The other members of the committee were either absent or opposed.

"This favorable action by the committee, which involved a reversal of the committee's former position, was due to the intensive campaign conducted from National Headquarters and to hard and unceasing work by Woman's Party members over the country, especially in the districts of the California, Georgia, New York and Texas members of the committee.

"In this campaign in Washington and in the districts of the committee members, many of you were of vital assistance—but now with the bill out of committee and before the House, *all* of you must help if we are to secure the passage of the measure this session. Every one of you has a Congressman—and one vote may decide the fate of the measure when it comes up on the floor of the House.

"HOW YOU CAN HELP

You can write letters, you can send telegrams;

You can get other people to write and wire;

You can get organizations to endorse the bill and send resolutions to Congressmen;

You can see your Congressman personally either in Washington or at home;

You can get up a deputation to call upon him.

"With so many immediate emergency measures before this special session, nothing will happen to this bill unless women are insistent. If women themselves do not think it important, certainly Congressmen will not.

"WHAT THE BILL IS

"The Equal Rights Nationality Bill is known as H. R. 3673. It was introduced in the Senate by Senator Copeland of New York and in the House by Representative Dickstein of New York. It would give a mother who is a citizen of this country the right to transmit her nationality to her child born abroad, a right now possessed only by the father. Today an American woman married to an alien may retain her own citizenship, but she cannot transmit her citizenship to her child. Even should she return to this country to live, her child could come in only as an alien. The bill would also wipe out all the other remaining discriminations against a woman as to her nationality. It would bring the United States up to the level of the five other nations which already have equality in this respect.

"THE COMMITTEE'S REPORT

"As soon as the committee's report recommending the passage of the bill has been printed, we will send you copies for use with your Congressmen.

(Signed) "MAUD YOUNGER,
"Congressional Chairman."

Minimum Wage Legislation

CONSTITUTIONALITY

MINIMUM wage legislation for women alone.—The United States Supreme Court has declared a minimum wage law for women unconstitutional. In discussing the minimum wage law for women in the District of Columbia in 1923 the United States Supreme Court said:

"We cannot accept the doctrine that women of mature age, *sui juris*, require or may be subjected to restrictions upon their liberty of contract which could not lawfully be imposed in the case of men under similar circumstances. To do so would be to ignore all the implications to be drawn from the present-day trend of legislation, as well as that of common thought and usage, by which woman is accorded emancipation from the old doctrine that she must be given special protection or be subjected to special restraint in her contractual and civil relationship." (Adkins vs. Children's Hospital, 261, U. S. 525, 1923).

The 1923 decision was followed by a second decision in October, 1925, when the United States Supreme Court declared the Arizona minimum wage law for women unconstitutional (John W. Murphy, Attorney General of the State of Arizona, et al., v. A. Sardell, 269 U. S. 530).

In commenting upon this last decision the Arizona Labor Journal of October 31, 1925, said with regard to minimum wage laws for women:

"It is safe to estimate that hereafter no State minimum wage law, as such, can successfully pass the Supreme Court,

By Jane Norman Smith

State Supreme Courts will undoubtedly follow the higher court. The Wisconsin State Supreme Court has already taken this position."

KANSAS — The courts have declared a minimum wage law for women unconstitutional (Topeka Laundry Co. vs. Court of Industrial Relations, 119 Kansas, 12).

MINNESOTA — The Attorney General has ruled that the minimum wage law is unconstitutional as applied to adult women (Bulletin No. 63, p. 6, Women's Bureau, U. S. Department of Labor, 1927).

ARKANSAS — After the decision of the United States Supreme Court holding the minimum wage law of the District of Columbia unconstitutional, a case was tried to test the Arkansas law, and it was declared unconstitutional by a Federal District Court. The judgment of the District Court was affirmed in 1927 by the United States Supreme Court. Donhan vs. West-Nelson Manufacturing Co., 273 U. S. 657.

Formerly the Arkansas law had been declared constitutional by the State Supreme Court, this being in 1917. State vs. Crowe, 130 Arkansas 272.

WISCONSIN—In 1924 the Folding Furniture Works, a corporation located at Steven's Point, applied for an injunction

to restrain the enforcement of the minimum wage law, the attack on the constitutionality of the law being "so far as it relates or makes provision for the determination and fixation of minimum wages for adult women." The Federal District Court said: "The constitutionality of the Act, the sole question in the case, is entirely dependent upon the applicability of the decision in Adkins vs. Children's Hospital. . . . A careful comparison of the District of Columbia with the Wisconsin Act has failed to bring out any vital difference between them, and we are constrained to accept the law as announced in the majority opinion in the Adkins' case." Furniture Folding Works vs. Industrial Commission, 300 Federal 991.

Wisconsin in 1925 enacted a substitute for her minimum wage law, the substitute stating "no wage paid. . . shall be oppressive" and that an oppressive wage is "any wage lower than a reasonable and adequate compensation for the service rendered."

Legislation for all Workers.—Laws fixing the hours of labor for both men and women have been passed by the legislatures of Georgia, Mississippi and Oregon. None of these laws has been overturned by the courts. On the contrary, the Mississippi law has been sustained by the Supreme Court of Mississippi and the Ore-

gon law has been sustained by the Supreme Court of the United States (*State v. Lumber Co.*, 103 Miss. 263; Sec. 6709, Oregon laws. *Bunting vs. Oregon*, 243 U. S., 426). The sustaining of the Oregon law for both men and women by the Supreme Court of the United States establishes the principle that it is constitutional for legislatures to limit the hours of men as well as women in non-dangerous occupations.

Miss Perkins, United States Secretary of Labor, is proposing an amendment to the 30-hour week bill providing for minimum wage legislation for *all workers* and has been reported as saying that she believes it will be held constitutional.

MINIMUM WAGE LEGISLATION APPLYING TO WOMEN ALONE DISCRIMINATES AGAINST WOMEN

CALIFORNIA—California has a minimum wage law for women, the responsibility of fixing minimum wages being in the hands of an industrial welfare commission, the awards of which are mandatory.

Under a headline "Law Declared Keeping Women Out of Jobs" the *Los Angeles Times* of July 19, 1932, said: "The minimum wage law, designed to protect women in industry, was described today by State Director of Finance Vandegrift as keeping them out of jobs. The finance director said he had been informed by Mrs. Mabel Kinney, chief of industrial welfare, that women are finding it difficult to obtain employment in many lines which they formerly filled because of the fact that thousands of men are willing to work for less than the minimum wage of \$16.00 as fixed by law."

On January 13, 1933, an editorial on the minimum wage law for women appeared in the *Los Angeles Times*. It said in part:

"This statute deserves the very serious consideration of the legislature, since it has not insured a basic living wage to women and minors, but on the contrary has operated to deprive them of any earnings at all. Instead, it forbids them to work and sends them to charity or the streets."

"... It is true that the Welfare Commission last summer took action establishing a minimum rate of \$9.00 for apprentices—action which permits the evasion of the law by establishments willing to take a chance or indulge in subterfuges. The evasion consists in discharging workers after they have served their apprentice term and either hiring others, or rehiring—after a short interval—the same workers again as apprentices. What the courts might say about this device is open to question; at any rate, many employers refuse to adopt it, either for fear

of the consequences or because they dislike the idea."

Recently a college employment manager sent to a business women's organization in California the following notice:

"An Important Ruling That Affects You.—Heretofore we have been able to furnish you excellent half-day typing and stenographic services as low as \$6.00 a week. We are now informed by the State Labor Commission that girls over 18 cannot be sent out at less than 40 cents an hour, which means \$9.60 a week for half-day workers. To meet the need for real money-saving thus arising, we suggest:

1. That we send you a girl under 18 (a minor) at 30 cents an hour.
2. That we send you a girl over 18 for four half-days a week.
3. Or, that we introduce to you our new part-time office service where by boys trained in typing, book-keeping—and in some cases shorthand—will work for \$6.00 to \$8.00 a week."

NORTH DAKOTA—From the Seventh Biennial Report of the Minimum Wage Department of the North Dakota Workmen's Compensation Bureau to the Governor of North Dakota for the biennium June 30, 1932:

"Since the beginning of the current depression and continuing through to the present time there has been considerable agitation, particularly from employers of the public housekeeping and mercantile occupations, for reduced minimum wage schedules, many employers claiming that if forced to comply with the provisions of the minimum wage law they would necessarily be put out of business. Others replied to communications from this office that rather than pay the required minimum they would discontinue employing women workers entirely and place male help in their stead, no legal wage having been established for the latter. Due to this situation, the enforcement of the law has been a very delicate problem and one requiring some tact, as an arbitrary stand would simply result in the replacement of deserving women workers by the opposite sex."

A letter from a woman restaurant worker in North Dakota to Alma Lutz, an officer of the National Woman's Party, in March, 1933, states: "In reply to your letter of March 16, 1933, I wish to state that conditions for women workers in Mandan and Bismarck are similar to those found elsewhere as evidenced in your letter. It is true that men and boys are replacing women and girls in certain industries because of the regulations applying to women workers. This is especially true of work in the dining rooms and kitchens of hotels and cafes. Lately one cafe in Bismarck replaced

all of its women workers with men. In other restaurants many boys are employed. A few days ago my employer remarked that they had been seriously considering replacing their waitresses by waiters. We have only men working in the kitchen now. Where women are still employed, in the better cafes the minimum wage has tended to become the maximum. In certain smaller cafes, proprietors have somehow managed to evade the regulations applying to women workers and pay any amount. . ."

OREGON—From the Fifteenth Biennial Report of the Bureau of Labor and the State Welfare Commission of the State of Oregon, 1931-1932:

"At a meeting of the State Welfare Commission some months later, after the canneries had started to operate, a delegation of working women appeared before the Commission and petitioned them to make a reduction in the minimum wage for women employees in canneries, contending that they were being discriminated against by the canneries, as boys and men could be hired for less than 27½ cents an hour. Many of these petitioners had dependents and they insisted that it was necessary that they be employed. They suggested that the minimum wage be reduced from 27½ cents per hour to 22½ cents an hour for the season of 1932. They felt that if this was done they could compete with men and could secure employment." (This reduction was made.)

MASSACHUSETTS — When the Minimum Wage Commission sent its ultimatum to Harvard University on December 18, 1929, threatening that if on December 26 any of the scrubwomen were still employed in the library at less than a 37-cent rate it would exercise its right to publish a notice to the effect that the University was not complying with its decree, Harvard immediately dismissed the women and put men in their places.

It is now being claimed by supporters of wage legislation for women that the dismissal of women had nothing to do with the decree of the Minimum Wage Commission—that before the decree was issued Harvard University had decided to dismiss the women and try machines operated by men. A letter from President Lowell of Harvard to Rev. William H. Duvall of Cambridge at the time disproves this: President Lowell said: "I find that the Minimum Wage Board has been complaining of our employing women for those purposes at less than 37 cents an hour and hence the University has felt constrained to replace them with men."

Pennsylvania Answers the Call

REOrganization of the Pennsylvania Branch of the National Woman's Party was launched in Philadelphia, May 12. An inspiring meeting of representative women in many lines of industry, business and the professions assembled at the College Club, one of Philadelphia's historic shrines, located at Thirteenth and Spruce streets; and in no uncertain terms showed their eagerness to bring Pennsylvania forward in the fight for Equal Rights.

The presiding officer was Sara B. Cummings of Philadelphia, who, for several weeks, has been actively engaged in arousing Pennsylvania women to the immediate need of an organized drive for local and national equality. Before introducing the speakers, Mrs. Cummings gave a brief summary of the Party's past activities in Philadelphia. She said in part:

"It is indeed gratifying to see the interest shown by former members of the Philadelphia Branch of the National Woman's Party, and also by new, and may we be pardoned for saying younger members, because when the memorable campaign for suffrage was raging a dozen years ago, the present 'young blood' of the Party was just beginning to be heard. Here we are, now, in the midst of another campaign because equality between men and women under the law and in all human relationships was not the complement of enfranchisement, although it should have been. Early in 1931 the Woman's Party held its Annual Conference in Philadelphia; and it was the good fortune of some of us to have our attention called to the dinner meeting. Miss Anna Pennypacker, well known to Philadelphians, was the presiding officer. The main topic was the work of the Party's representatives in Geneva—Alice Paul, Doris Stevens and their associates; the bone of contention being the vicious first section of the recommendations of The Hague Convention to the World Court, the proceedings and outcome of which are well known to readers of *EQUAL RIGHTS*. Unfortunately, Miss Pennypacker was obliged to resign as the Pennsylvania leader; and from then on until now the Pennsylvania Branch dwindled. It is our duty to restore our State, the Keystone, to its one-time prestige in the fight for women's welfare; and we are ready for the fray. In fact, we mean to go ahead of Maryland, which has the honor of being the pacemaker at present; but friendly competition is a good tonic, and we in Philadelphia are anxious to enter the race.

"Last Fall a small group of women began to chafe under the trend of legislation as exposed in *EQUAL RIGHTS*. We read how, with increasing audacity, law-

makers in various States were attempting to curtail women's right to earn a living by sponsoring discriminatory bills. How subtle were the wiles of these chivalrous benefactors, with the 'pedestal hokum'!

"Accordingly, we visited Washington headquarters and interviewed leaders well known to Feminists. You will be glad to hear once more the names of Alice Paul, Elsie Hill, Florence Bayard Hilles, Maud Younger, Anita Pollitzer, Burnita Shelton Matthews, Iris Calderhead Walker, Edith Houghton Hooker, and Ella Riegel, one of our own members, who will always be remembered for her active work in our Pennsylvania Legislature in behalf of laws for equal guardianship of children and many other equitable statutes of which we are justly proud. With the mention of these women you will be satisfied that we were well equipped with sound advice and backing for whatever might arise. Sure enough, the legislative session just passed did throw two bombs, adverse to women's interests; fortunately, both expired in committee. Active lobbying saved the day and prevented what might have resulted in untold hardships to thousands of families.

"Tonight we have experienced, fearless women here to address us. Fearless because they are standard-bearers of truth, with no selfish motives to conceal under suave cant and rhetorical verbiage; you will hear direct, forceful, honest statements that cannot be assailed."

The first speaker called on by Mrs. Cummings was Edith Houghton Hooker, who gave a brief sketch of the national and international work of the Woman's Party and emphasized the importance of building up strong organizations in the various States to support the Congressional program.

Mrs. Cummings reiterated Mrs. Hooker's appeal for new members, and then introduced Ida I. Kloze, a lawyer and president of the Business and Professional Women's Council of the Maryland Branch of the National Woman's Party. It was through her efforts that the eight-hour bill for women was defeated in the recent session of the Maryland Legislature. Miss Kloze related her experiences in this connection and in true legal fashion disclosed the fallacies of so-called protective laws.

"Although Equal Rights is a very beautiful theory," she said, "and all of us agree it is a fine principle, it also has a practical angle; there are very many instances where it immediately affects us personally as individuals. When we speak of discriminatory laws we sometimes think we are fighting the battle for others, but very frequently such legislation has a

direct effect upon ourselves. Most 'protective' legislation which on its face seems intended to aid and assist women engaged in industry actually does the protected woman more harm than good. If the worker is deprived of the privilege of determining for herself the number of hours which she shall work or the rate she will charge for her services, she loses a right granted to her under the Constitution of the United States, and is declared an inferior citizen because her power to contract is limited. If we permit protective legislation as a kindness to women, we will soon find that the opportunities for women will be 'killed with kindness.'"

Following Miss Kloze's remarks, Arabel Clark, chairman of the legislative committee of the Pennsylvania State Teachers' League, told of activities in Harrisburg during the recent session. No one is more competent to speak on legislative matters than she because of her long experience.

The last speaker was Emilie A. Doetsch of Baltimore, who has been assisting Mrs. Cummings with the reorganization of the Pennsylvania Branch. Miss Doetsch spoke of the great possibilities of the work in Pennsylvania and congratulated those present upon the success already achieved.

In conclusion, Frances Anné of Philadelphia introduced the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, there is continued widespread effort on the part of lawmakers in various States to limit women's activities in industry, in business, and in the professions; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Equal Rights Amendment to the Federal Constitution as sponsored by the National Woman's Party reads as follows: "Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction."

"Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation;" and

WHEREAS, the adoption of this amendment will be a mandate to the States to equalize their laws, thereby bringing about equal opportunity for men and women in industry, in business, in the professions, and in all human relationships; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Philadelphia City Branch of the National Woman's Party hereby heartily endorses the said proposed Equal Rights Amendment; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this endorsement be sent to Senator John G. Townsend of Delaware and Representative

Louis Ludlow of Indiana who, on March 9, 1933, introduced in their respective houses in this present Congress said proposed Equal Rights Amendment, now known as Resolution No. 1, together with an adequate expression of gratitude for their open tangible avowal of their belief in equality as between men and women; and be it further

Resolved, That, at the proper time, a copy of such endorsement be sent to every

Pennsylvania member of the United States Senate and House of Representatives, together with an urgent appeal for their support of said amendment; and be it further

Resolved, That we, the members of the Philadelphia City Branch of the National Woman's Party, hereby pledge ourselves as individuals and as an organized force to exert every effort to bring about the speedy adoption of said amendment.

A resolution was also passed endorsing H. R. 3673, and all those present were requested to write or telegraph the Pennsylvania members of Congress immediately, urging them to vote favorably on the measure. A business meeting of the Philadelphia members will be held in the near future for the formal organization of a Philadelphia Branch of the Woman's Party, when by-laws will be adopted and permanent officers elected.

Feminist Notes

Unopposed for Re-election

JUDGE MAY D. LAHEY, a member of the Business Women's Legislative Council of California, was the unopposed candidate for re-election at the May 2 primary in Los Angeles. Judge Lahey is at present the presiding judge of Office No. 2 of the Municipal Court.

Senator Caraway Made Chairman

SENATOR HATTIE W. CARAWAY was recently appointed chairman of the Committee on Enrolled Bills of the United States Senate. This is the first time a woman has held a committee chairmanship in the Senate. Mrs. Caraway is also a member of a number of other committees.

Supports Women's Colleges

AN editorial in the *New York Times* for April 10 makes a plea for more money for women's colleges in America. It points out that while there are less than twice as many men in men's colleges as there are women in women's colleges, yet the men's colleges received more than twelve times as much as the women's colleges in gifts and bequests. To quote: "It is for the good of the whole social order that these colleges should be given even beyond what is given for the men's institutions, for, as a group of men (including Newton D. Baker, Bernard Baruch, James Byrne, Thomas Lamont, Bishop Lawrence and Owen D. Young) said in an appeal some months ago, 'No other factor in the intellectual life of America is more important than the colleges for women.' We doubt if any other is so important."

International Alliance Adopts Resolution

THE International Suffrage Alliance adopted the following resolution at its international conference held at Marseilles, France, on March 19:

"Considering that the right to work is the basis of human dignity, and that woman as well as man must be enabled to develop her faculties and to ensure her economic safety and considering that the world crisis has in some countries brought about measures against women workers

which threaten this right to work, the Alliance protests against such measures and affirms the right of a woman, whether married or unmarried, to be free to market her qualifications and to live by the result of her own work.

"Realizing also that a condition of economic depression and technical changes may still further diminish possibilities of employment and make it necessary for the time being to reduce the numbers employed, the Alliance asks the affiliated societies to keep strict watch so that no measure of a general systematic nature may be taken against categories of workers, especially women, whether married or unmarried, and so that where reduction of staff becomes necessary the same principle shall apply to both men and women, this to apply also on the resumption of work.

"The Alliance considers also that unemployed women, especially married women, in some countries, are subjected to additional regulations restricting their right to benefit. The Alliance recommends its affiliated societies to insist in their respective countries that the same conditions apply to victims of unemployment without consideration of sex in the distribution of insurance benefits or grants against unemployment, and that all other kinds of insurance (sickness, incapacity, old age, etc.) shall be based on the same principle."

Women Barristers in Denmark

INGEBORG HANSEN of Denmark, barrister-at-law, is the first woman lawyer to exercise the new right given recently to Danish lawyers to appear before the Court of Appeals in cases in which they have appeared in the lower courts. Miss Hansen is well known in international Feminist circles. She is a member of the Board of International Alliance for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship.

Poland's First Woman Architect

MADAME HEDWIDGE DOBRZYNSKA is Poland's first woman architect and has to her credit the construction of some of the largest and finest buildings in her country.

All-India Women's Conference

WOMEN from every province and of all creeds, castes and races attended the seventh session of the All-India Women's Conference at Lucknow recently. They were united in the demand for equality and the removal of all discriminations based on sex. *Stri Dharma*, the official organ of the Women's Indian Association, telling of the conference, says: "Speeches on the subject were listened to with rapt attention and respect, interrupted by loud and frequent applause, especially from the younger generation of women who are determined to fight for their rights and win freedom for their sex and their country."

Woman Artist Honored

CECILIA BEAUX was awarded, on April 16, the Chi Omega medal for this year. The medal is awarded annually by Chi Omega, national woman's sorority, to an American woman who has made an outstanding contribution to the culture of the world. Miss Beaux is regarded as one of the foremost women painters in this country. She was the only woman among five artists commissioned in 1919 by a committee of Americans to execute official war portraits for the United States Government. She has also been honored by the Italian Government by being invited to execute a self-portrait, to be added to the collection of self-portraits of artists in the Uffizi Gallery in Florence.

Women in Merchant Marine

TURKISH women have recently been admitted as sailors in the Turkish Merchant Marine. They attend a special school in Istamboul, where they enter as cadets. One of their classes is in navigation on a training ship.

Amelia Earhart Wins Trophy

AMELIA EARHART recently received another honor in aviation circles. On April 15 she was awarded the Harmon International Aviatrix Trophy for her flight across the Atlantic in May, 1932, the first crossing ever accomplished by a woman alone.

Shall Mexican Women Enjoy Political Equality?

IN dealing with the problem of the rights of women in Mexico, I do not propose to bring into the frame of these brief words a long statement of facts regarding the evolution of civil rights of women in my country. I do not even intend to outline the history of that problem of capital importance in the life of every nation. To do so in a fairly accurate manner would take many hours, perhaps full days, and little, if anything, could be concluded from it except the all-important fact, with which I prefer to deal directly, that those rights have steadily increased and will, there is every reason to believe, have a lasting effect upon our culture.

While there have been Feminist activities in Mexico, just as in practically every other nation, my country has not been an outstanding leader toward those ideals. The conquests of the Mexican woman may more accurately be attributed to the conviction that she is entitled to them, not only because of the trends of modern life, but also because of the part played by women in the history of my country as well. It would not be unsafe to state that the women of Mexico enjoy every respect, every consideration of all Mexicans. I do not doubt that you will agree with me that laws which are enacted to consecrate an already accepted and well defined principle are more likely to be obeyed than those which create new obligations or grant new privileges. This, in the last analysis, as I see it, is the whole story of the development of the traditionally restricted rights of the Mexican woman into the modern conception of equality of civil rights for men and women, contained in the Mexican Civil Code of 1928. Indeed, because of this smooth, rather peaceful way of legitimate-

Address Delivered by Señor Carlos Peon Del Valle, Third Secretary of the Mexican Embassy, Before the Annual Convention of the Maryland Branch of the National Woman's Party, in Baltimore, Maryland, on May 2, 1933

ly conquering the legal recognizance of her rights, I would hesitate in using the word emancipation, so often heard in this connection, to describe the advent of the Mexican woman in the whole juridical, domestic life of her country.

Again, I do not wish to undertake to burden you with a detailed recapitulation of the civil rights of women in Mexico. They rest, in brief, upon a faithful, well understood basis of equality with men. Some articles of the Civil Code even grant them extra measures of protection. This, as you may readily see, is a mere, simple dissertation, which I would not even have put in writing to read to you were it not for my lack of English.

However, since you may reasonably expect to hear some substantial statement on the subject chosen for this address, I shall discuss, though quite briefly, the point relating to the political rights of women in Mexico, in which I venture to assume that you may be interested, for there is at present no apparent conflict of opinions on the codified matter involving the problem of their civil rights.

Women in Mexico do not enjoy political rights since they cannot vote or be elected to the foremost positions of the administrative, legislative or judiciary machinery of the Government. The question immediately arises whether those privileges are really rights or duties. They are probably both, and to make an exhaustive inquiry on which of the two possible interpretations must prevail, or, in other

words, which one would overshadow the other, and still proceeding further, to investigate up to what extent is such a conflict, or such an equilibrium, desirable, for the maintenance of the established public order, would lead us into endless speculations in the fields of public law and perhaps of philosophy also.

So, after leaving that question unanswered, and while admitting that the same considerations could be applied to the suffrage of men, the point to be borne in mind is whether it would be desirable or worthy for women to fight for political equality, one is compelled to recall still another question difficult to answer briefly: that of the convenience of making the governmental organization and the electoral system more complex by the introduction into them of a new element in those countries in which political rights have not been granted to or imposed upon women.

In asking you kindly to forgive me for this departure from the subject of my dissertation, I wish, before finishing, to state that it is generally admitted that the reply to the question of why Mexican women do not enjoy political rights lies in the fact that they are not believed prepared, as yet, for it. But the principle of the division of labor, that principle which has made mass production possible in many an industrial center of the world, is to be found, partially but strikingly and clearly exposed in Article 168 of the above referred to Civil Code of the City of Mexico and Federal Territories. It provides that "the management and care of housework will be vested in the wife."

That is, I believe, the explanation. The outcome of events, of course, is to decide what the future of feminism in Mexico will be.

News from the Field

District Clubs Support Amendment

FIVE clubs and the Department of Public Welfare in the District of Columbia Federation of the General Federation of Women's Clubs unanimously adopted resolutions endorsing the Equal Rights Amendment to the Federal Constitution during the present club year. These clubs are the Woodridge Book Club, Mrs. O. E. Minzer, president; Sunshine and Community Society, Mrs. Ernest F. Gude, president; Petworth Woman's Club, Mrs. R. E. Holm, president; Columbia Heights Art Club, Mary L. Nalle, president; and the District of Columbia Auxiliary to the Woman's National Sabbath Alliance, Mrs. Ellis Logan, president. Mrs. Charles P. Watson is president of Public Welfare.

Cornelia H. Hill, chairman of the Di-

vision of Industry in the District of Columbia Federation, recently conducted a round-table discussion on the proposed amendment at a meeting of the Welfare Department of the Federation.

Burnita Shelton Matthews was at the session to present legal facts with regard to labor laws. Ruth Taunton of California told of how labor laws for women in her State had aroused the California Federation of Business and Professional Women to endorse the Equal Rights Amendment.

Feminist Member of Signal Section

MARIE F. SIMMEN of Eden, New York, a founder of the National Woman's Party, has been elected to membership in the Signal Section of the

American Railway Association. The Signal Section is composed of specialists who are responsible for the safe operation of the American railways. Mrs. Simmen is the only woman who has ever been a member of this organization. Mrs. Simmen is secretary of the Simmen Automatic Railway Signal Company, which has been engaged for twenty years in the development of modern signaling speed control, centralized control, and cab signals.

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